Amendment, no fee should be due and the period for reply should already be extended to September 9, 2002; but, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additionally required fee for extension to three months and, or any other fee occasioned by this paper, or credit any overpayment in such fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

AMENDMENT

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows:

--50. (New) A pharmaceutical or veterinary paste ~~formulation~~ comp., ~~which~~ based upon total weight of composition, consisting essentially of:

(a) about ~~0.01~~ to about 50% of a COX-2 inhibitor;

(b) about 0.02 to about 20% fumed silica;

(c) about 0.01% to about 20% of ~~a viscosity modifier consisting essentially of~~ polyethylene glycol; and

(d) ~~balance to 100% based on all ingredients in the formulation consisting essentially of a carrier consisting essentially of~~ the remainder of the comp. being triacetin;

whereby the ingredients can form a paste ~~formulation~~ comp. without needing to be heated.

51. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation of claim 50 additionally consisting essentially of up to about 30% of an absorbent.

52. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation of claim 50 additionally consisting essentially of up to about 20% of a colorant.

53. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation of claim 50 wherein the polyethylene glycol ~~consists essentially of~~ is PEG 200, PEG 300, PEG 400, or PEG 600.

54. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to claim 50, which based upon total weight of the composition, consists essentially of:

(a) about 0.01 to about 50% of a COX-2 inhibitor;

(b) about 1% to about 6.5% fumed silica;

(c) about 0.05% to about 5% of a ~~viscosity modifier~~ PEG;

(d) about 1% to about 10% of an absorbent; and

(e) 0.01% to about 10% of a colorant.

55. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to claim 51 wherein the absorbent is selected from the group consisting of magnesium carbonate, calcium carbonate, starch, and cellulose and its derivatives.

56. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to claim 52 wherein the colorant is selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, dye and lake.

57. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to any one of claims 50-56, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor is 3-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-5H-furan-2-one or 3-(cyclopropylethoxy)-5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-5H-furan-2-one or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or hydrates of these compounds.

58. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to any one of claims 50-56, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor is the polymorphic B form of 3-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-4-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl-5,5-dimethyl]-5H-furan-2-one.

59. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to claim 50 wherein the COX-2 inhibitor consists essentially of 3-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-5H-furan-2-one or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or hydrates thereof, and the viscosity modifier consists essentially of PEG 300.

60. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to claim 59 further consisting essentially of an absorbent and a colorant.

61. (New) The pharmaceutical or veterinary paste formulation according to claim 60 wherein the absorbent is magnesium carbonate and the colorant is TiO_2.

62. (New) The paste formulation according to any one of claims 59-61, wherein the COX-2 inhibitor is the polymorphic B form of 3-(cyclopropylmethoxy)-5,5-dimethyl-4-(4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-5H-furan-2-one.

63. (New) The paste formulation according to claim 50 which is prepared by admixing, without heating, ingredients (a), (b) and (d) to form a mixture, and then adding to the mixture, without heating, ingredient (c).